(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government are reluctant to channelize the prganised Labour sector in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) A statement is assached. (see below).

(d) No Sir.

Statement

A large number of existing labour laws like the Minimum Wages Act, the Payment of Wages Act, the Equal Remuneration Act, the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act and the Inter-State Migrants Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Services) Act etc. are also applicable to the workers engaged in unorganised sector to look after their interests in terms of wages, working hours, social security etc. The Ministry of Labour are administering five Welfare Funds established by legislation to extend welfare and social security schemes in the fields of housing, educational, medical and recreational facilities for beedi, mines (limestone|dolomite, iron, mahganese chrome, mica) and cine workers. EPF & ESI Schemes are also available to unorganised workers subject to coverage of the establishment. There are proposals for bringing forward Central legislations for the welfare of construction workers and agricultural workers who constitute the largest segments of the unorganised labour force in the country. However, there is no proposal to enact a composite law for the whole of unorganised sector as such.

Expert Committee headed by Dr. S. Z. Qasim in the Development of Himalayas

856. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the expert committee headed by Dr. S. Z. Qasim on the development of Himalayas; and

(b) what steps have been taken to implement the recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) and (b) The Report of the Expert Group set up under the Chairmanship of Dr. S. Z. Qasim on formulation of national policy for an integrated development of the Himalayan Region is still under examination of the Planning Commission.

Giving low rate by UNDP

857. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has been given a very low rating by UNDP on the basis of Human Development Index;

(b) whether Government do not consider it a sad reflection on the policies promises and performance of the Indian States since August, 1947; and

(c) what measures are contemplated to improve the conditions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) The 1994 Human Development of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) places India at 135th position for the year 1992 out of a total of 173 countries